

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This Preliminary Amendment, which contains no new matter, is now filed in this case in response to the Notice to File Missing Parts, dated March 3, 2004.

By this Preliminary Amendment, the drawings are presented in formal style, with appropriate figure number corrections made to establish a proper sequence of numbers, and with correlating changes made in the reference numerals employed in the drawing figures.

The Specification pages have been revised to assure consistency with the revised drawings, and to correct a few, minor, typographical errors.

The single claim currently in this case has been revised to correct a minor typographical error.

An Abstract of the Disclosure has been added.

Favorable consideration of this application, and allowance of the claim, are respectfully solicited. If the Examiner has any questions regarding the amendment or remarks, the Examiner is invited to contact Attorney-of-Record Jon M. Dickinson, Esq., at 503-504-2271.

Accompanying Documents

This Amendment includes a Request for Extension of Time in which to Respond in the Fifth (5th) Month following the Notice of Missing Parts under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a). Also enclosed are a (1) Revocation and Appointment of Power of Attorney; Change of Correspondence Address; (2) Declaration of Inventors; and (3) Assignment and Recordation Cover Sheet.

Request for Extension of time in Which to Respond

Applicants hereby request an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 to respond

Amendments to the Drawings

Provided in the sixteen-page Appendix which forms part of this Preliminary Amendment are eight Replacement drawing Sheets of formal drawings which are to replace the originally filed eight, now replaced drawing Sheets containing informal drawings. Drawing figure numbers have been revised to attend to informalities noted by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in the Notice to File Missing Parts, dated March 3, 2004.

within the fifth (5th) month following the Notice to File Missing Parts. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Account No. 22-0258.

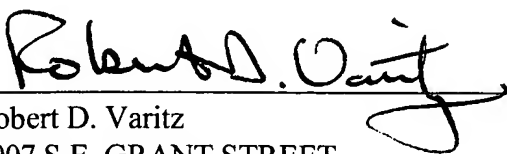
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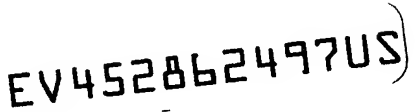
Respectfully Submitted,

ROBERT D. VARITZ, P.C.

Registration No: 31436
Telephone: 503-720-1983
Facsimile: 503-233-7730

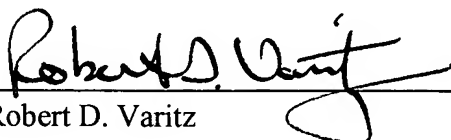

Robert D. Varitz
2007 S.E. GRANT STREET
Portland, Oregon 97214

CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING

"Express Mail" Mailing Label No. 
Date of Deposit - September 24, 2004

I hereby certify that the attached Preliminary Amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.115, Request for Extension of Time in Which to Respond, Declaration of Inventors, Assignment and Recordation Cover Sheet, Power of Attorney and two PTO Form 2038 credit card authorizations in the amount of \$1,455.00, which covers the Missing parts fee of \$65.00, the Extension fee of \$1,005.00 and the Small entity filing fee of \$385.00; and \$40.00 for the Assignment Recordation Fee, are being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to:

Mail Stop Missing Parts
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Washington, D.C. 22313-1450


Robert D. Varitz

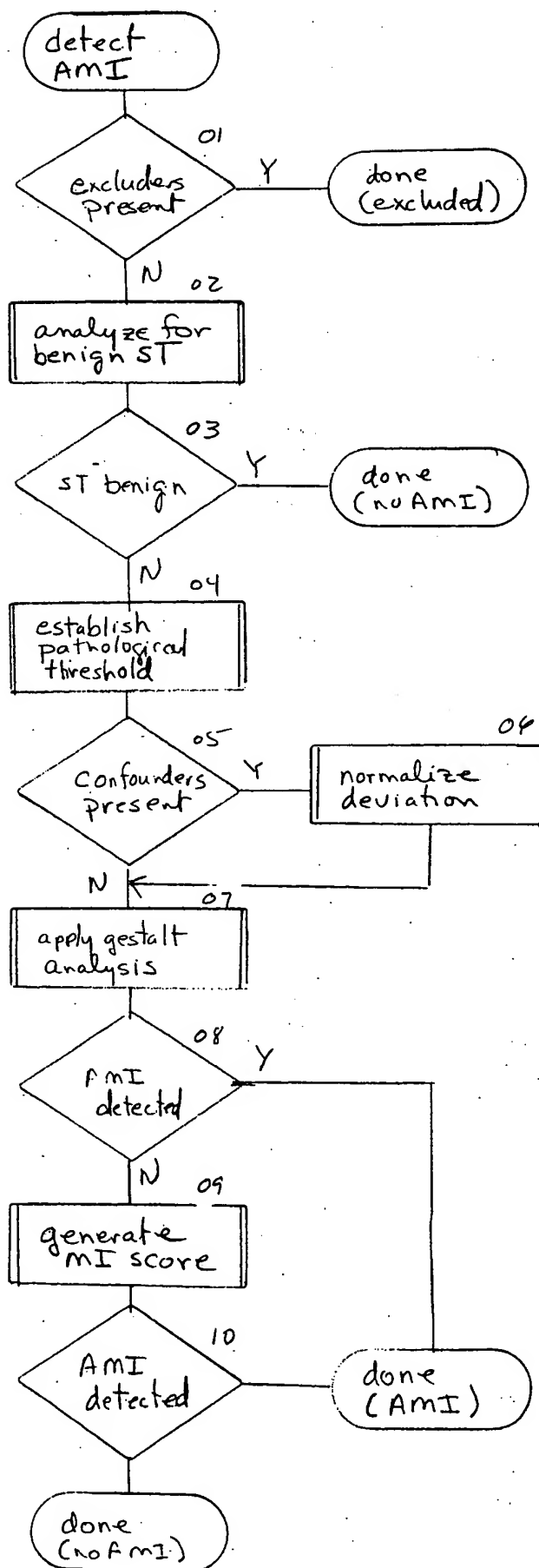


Fig. 1

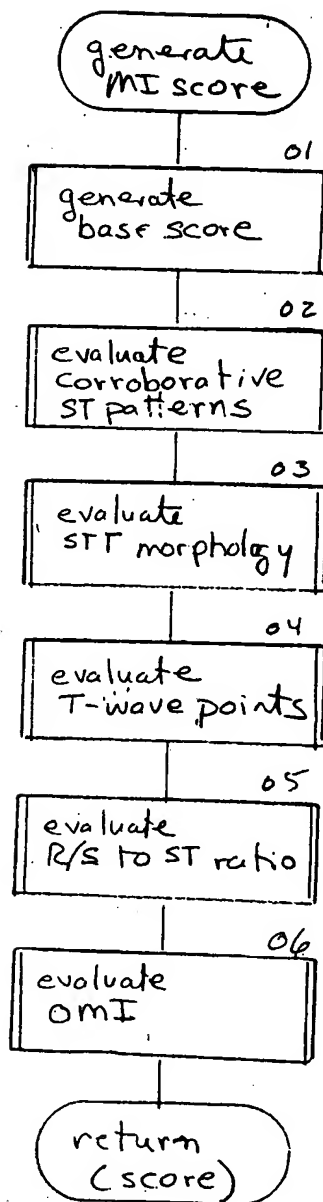


Fig. 2

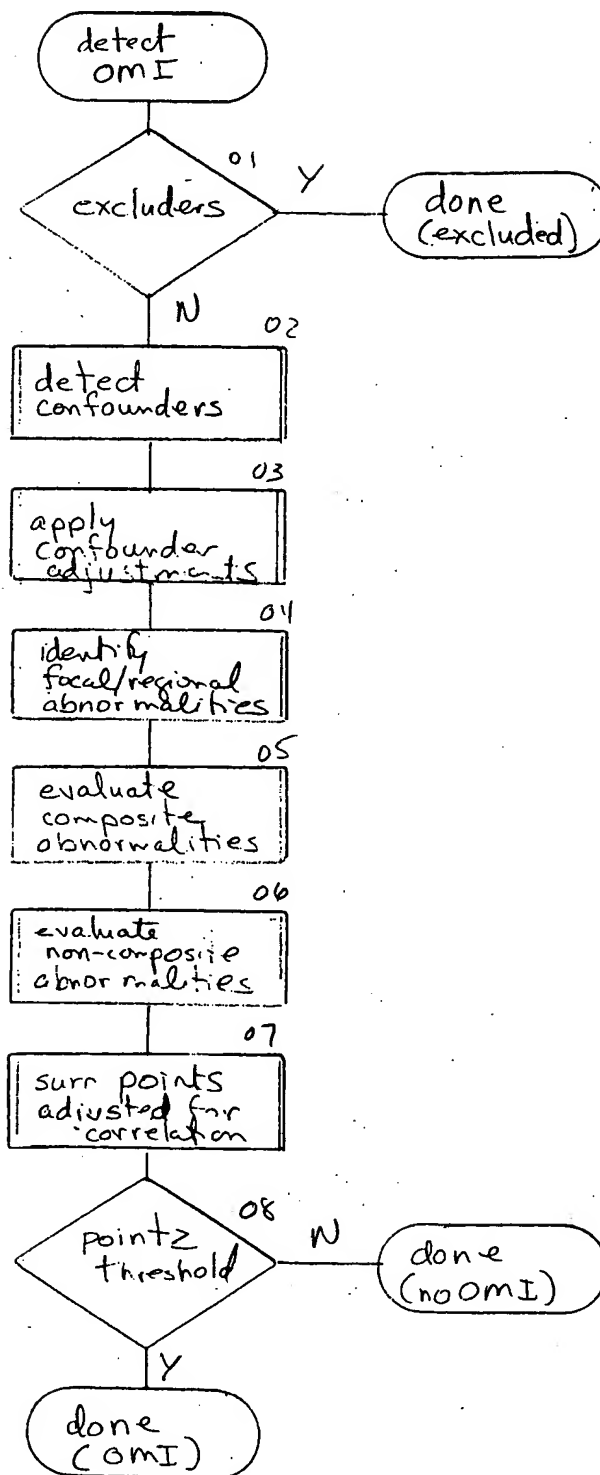


Fig 1

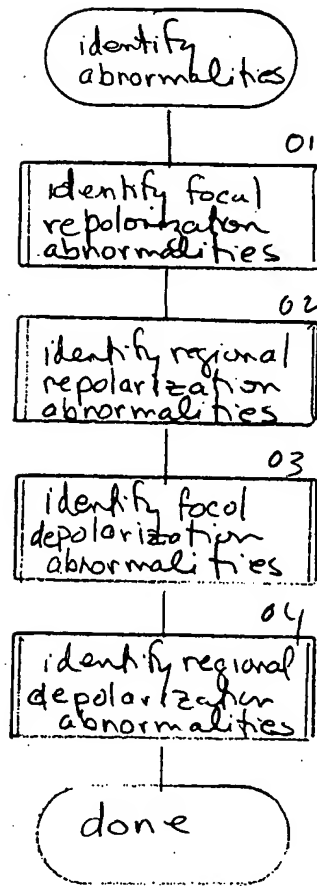


Fig 2

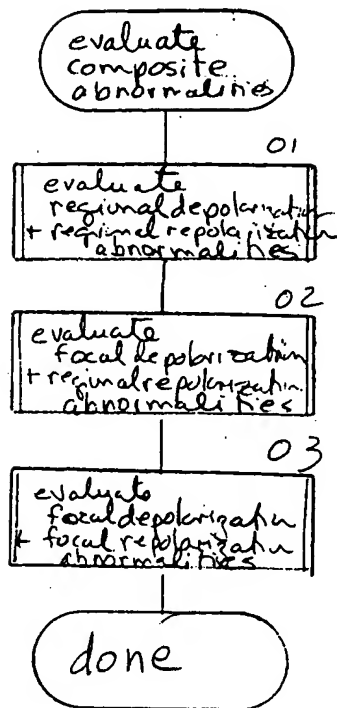


Fig. 3

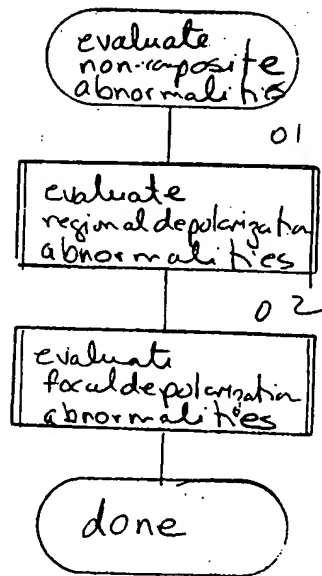


Fig 4

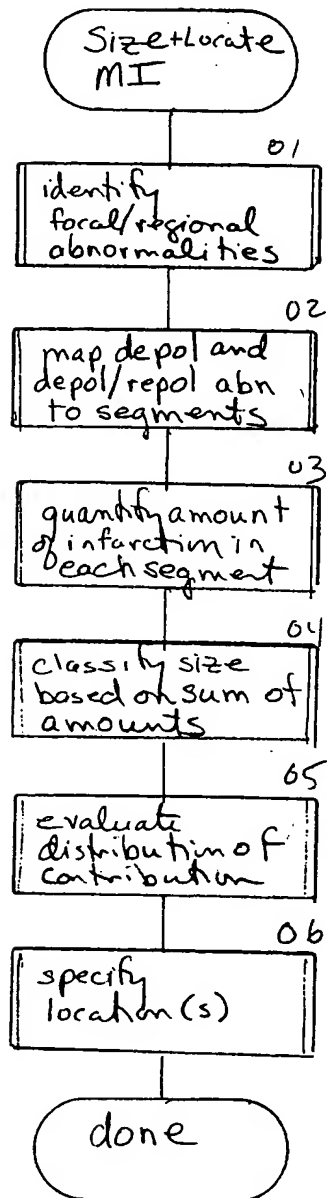


Fig 5

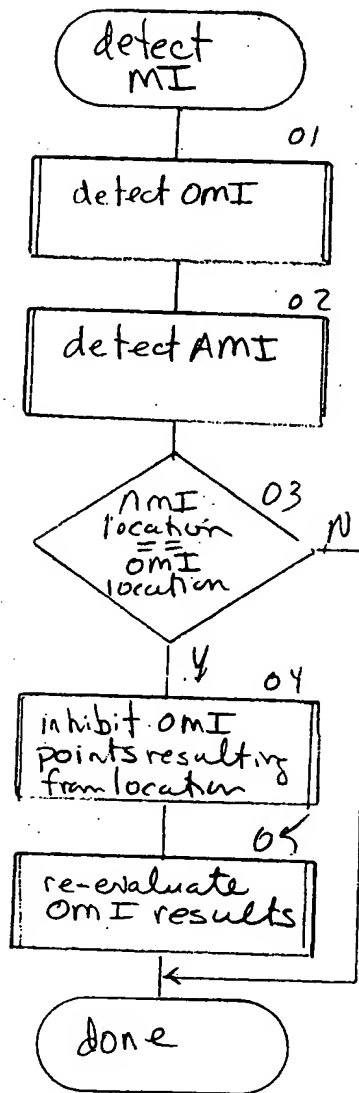


Fig 7